

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 344  
By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate members of the Johnson County High School Band and their director, Chris Simmons, for their many accomplishments and awards in the past year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those young people who, through their artistic endeavors, have brought honor and accolades upon not only themselves, but the State of Tennessee as well; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Johnson County High School "Pride of Johnson County" Band, directed by Chris Simmons, are exemplary ambassadors of this State as they have competed superbly in many different festivals and competitions throughout the past year; and

WHEREAS, comprised of seventh through twelfth graders, the Johnson County Band is widely regarded as one of the elite bands in the region; together, the members of the band have won hundreds of awards and honors over the years; and

WHEREAS, competing against students from many other schools at the Senior Band Clinic in Gatlinburg in early February 2003, many exemplary students were placed into the

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different festival bands; Saul Garland, Angel Sluder, and Jessica Mahala placed in the Blue Band, which is the top band, Katrina Giarrusso, Jordan Mason, and Rebecca Sannes made the Red Band, which is the second-highest band, Heather Burchett, Megan Pardue, Angel Potter, and Ashley Pardue made the third band, and Sean Kleine and David Kraft placed in the fourth band; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his placement in the Blue Band, Saul Garland's excellent performances during the Senior Clinic earned him an invitation to the 2003 Tennessee All State Band competition; there he will compete against other students from across the State for a position in the band; and

WHEREAS, three ninth-grade students placed in the Junior Clinic District Band in January: Meredith Wachs, Phillip Roberts, and Bridgett Arney; and

WHEREAS, several members of the band attended a two-day Honors Festival in early February 2003, at East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, several of the talented musicians participated at the East Tennessee Upper Area Solo and Ensemble Festival. Receiving Superior Ratings at the highly-touted Master Class level of competition were Angel Sluder, Sean Kleine, Nathaniel Wilson, Stephanie Shores, and Miranda Blankenbeckler in duet; a percussion ensemble of Stephanie Shores, Miranda Blankenbeckler, Bridgett Arney, and Dylan Shores likewise garnered a Superior Rating; and

WHEREAS, these remarkable students owe a great deal of their instruction and musical exposure to the constant and knowledgeable leadership of their director, Chris Simmons. Mr. Simmons has himself been honored many times, being nominated as a guest clinician for the 2002 Hawkins County Honors Band and asked to direct one of the bands for the University of Georgia Middle School Honors Festival; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pay tribute to these remarkable musicians for their hard work and many accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED  
THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE  
CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the members of the "Pride of Johnson  
County" on their many awards and accomplishments and wish them the best in their future  
endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared  
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.